

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 2

THE NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

22 February 1977

Cutoff of Hussein \$\$ Disturbs Senators

By JOSEPH VOLZ

Washington (News Bureau)—Some members of the Senate Intelligence Committee are concerned about President Carter's abrupt decision to stop CIA payments to King Hussein of Jordan after the money had flowed for 20 years with the approval of five previous Presidents, beginning with Dwight D. Eisenhower.

This concern could surface today at Intelligence Committee hearings on the President's nomination of his Annapolis classmate, Adm. Stansfield Turner, to be the new director of central intelligence, succeeding Republican George Bush.

The confirmation of Turner, a tough-minded Rhodes Scholar who most recent-

ly served as commander of NATO forces in southern Europe, seems assured, although some questions remain about his decision to remain on active duty instead of retiring from the Navy.

Some Intelligence Committee members want to know why the President cut off the Hussein payments, which were considered part of a "highly successful" CIA plan to bring a measure of stability to the Middle East. CIA analysts say that without the payments, particularly in the mid-1950s, Hussein would have been overthrown.

According to Robert D. Murphy, chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Oversight Board, Hussein was the last head of state to receive personal subsidies from the CIA. He said that the board told President Ford about the program last year after the CIA's own general counsel had reported it as "an impropriety."

The House and Senate committees that investigated the CIA and the other U.S. intelligence-gathering agencies in 1975 and 1976 were not told about the

payoffs to Hussein and other foreign leaders.

But some members of the new Senate Intelligence Committee, which is headed by Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii), reportedly were told about the Hussein payments and raised few objections. How much they were told is not clear.

Raised Some Questions

The Senate intelligence panel, while charged with oversight of the CIA, has not sought to stop any CIA activities, including the six one-shot covers operations the agency has conducted over the last years or so. It did, however, raise some questions about one of these operations, sources said. They did not identify the operation.

The congressional procedure for stopping a CIA operation is to notify the executive branch first and, if that does

not work, to take up the matter at a closed session of the full Senate, which presumably would vote its disapproval if the Intelligence Committee made a good case.

But any one-shot CIA operation probably would be over long before the cumbersome legislative process was completed.

Sen. Gary Hart (D-Colo.), an Intelligence Committee member, told The News yesterday that he opposed any payments to heads of state on "moral grounds." He said that he saw no difference between the CIA "bribing" a national leader and a United States corporation such as Lockheed paying foreign officials to win airplane contracts.

Hart conceded that intelligence agencies have traditionally gathered some information by paying foreign informers. But he said that carrying the practice up to paying off a king was taking it too far.